

Comment:

It took 1 month for my life to be shattered by smart meters. The utility company installed sixteen by my home; within days, stabbing pain in my head, palpitations, arrhythmia, pressure in my chest, extreme insomnia began-- symptoms that did not occur when I was away from my home. Four others, 25 -80 years old, experienced similar symptoms in my home.

After one month, I thought I was having a heart attack. I moved out. These symptoms began occurring near other RF sources (cell towers, wifi.) Radiation injury from RF sources, like a severe sunburn, leaving the body over-reactive to touch, rendered me extremely sensitive to constant, subtler RF exposures in non-subtle ways. My exposure to smart meters opened the door to neurological contamination from many radiation sources, including non-ionizing radiation.

There is a signature feeling to radiation. Like shock from a bad electrical plug or uninsulated wire. It gives us a prickly, strangely devitalized soreness. Longer-term effects of non-ionizing radiation have been documented for decades. Eventually, I had to leave SD, my private practice as a health care provider. I live in remote areas, searching for increasingly rare areas free from cell towers/wifi/ other RF sources. The stabbing pain often feels unbearable. People I know suffering from smart meter injuries include doctors(4 of my doctors,) lawyers, dentists, neuropsychologists, engineers. Friends call in tears from the pain shooting through their heads/bodies. Friends contemplate suicide due to the fruitlessness of their efforts to escape.

Most people are initially unaware that symptoms they are experiencing are due to smart meters. Some common symptoms from smart meter exposure: headaches and especially migraines, insomnia, rashes, ringing in the ears, palpitations, arrhythmia, nausea, asthma/breathing difficulties, lightheadedness, difficulty concentrating and other cognitive impairments such as memory problems, vision problems, glaucoma, tremors, seizures, and burning and stabbing pain in the body. People often trace the onset of their medical symptoms to the installation of smart meters, when informed. People with pacemakers and other medical devices should not be near smart meters. Children and infants cannot report their symptoms. They may exhibit behavioral changes or disturbances instead. Children (and adults) have been rushed to ERs with cardiac and seizure symptoms. I saw a top cardiologist who informed me that he is seeing many young people with my symptoms.

Although medical responses to this growing problem have not received publicity, those responses have been growing for years now. The American Academy of Environmental Medicine has come out with two strong position statements against smart meters. Dr. David Carpenter, MD, School of Public Health, University of Albany and 40 international experts have signed a letter warning about the hazards of smart meters. The 2012 BioInitiative Report (based on

1,800 RF studies) addresses significant health effects from even low RF exposures. The World Health Organization has ranked smart meters and ionizing radiation as a Class 2B carcinogen, along with DDT and lead.

Our exposures to radiation via cell phones, cell towers, wi-fi, computers and the “smart grid” compound literally every day. The argument that people use cell phones and other electronic gadgets daily, therefore let’s not quantify or address specific and cumulative exposures is like saying that smoking one cigarette a day is the same as smoking one carton of cigarettes.

A program cannot be called “green” when it harms life. The number of people injured by smart meters is growing. We are enduring great losses--physical, emotional, financial, social and spiritual. I feel pain when in stores/ office buildings/restaurants/ most social environments. My inability to work added to my medical expenses has cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. I am cut off from family and friends. I know professionals who sleep in their cars, sleep in tents in their backyards or in remote areas, people who can have little contact with their former lives, who cannot work or be near their loved ones. This situation amounts to a state of emergency for many people all around the US/ Europe.

Wired smart meters and fiber optics are options that would have avoided this problem entirely. Had studies been performed on the health effects of pulsed non-ionizing radiation-- which people can often not opt out of until it is too late-- this grotesque suffering from smart meters would have been prevented.

All RF exposure must be evaluated. New Standards must be set. The science is there.

Those injured need a safe environment, free from RF sources. I have relocated 11 times, am still not safe, I am still searching for somewhere to live.

RH formerly from San Diego